



DOCKET NO: 243767US90X

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN APPLICATION OF

CHIAKI KUBOTA

SERIAL NO: 10/679,341

FILED: OCTOBER 7, 2003

FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
PRODUCING HOLLOW RACK BAR

:

: EXAMINER: COZART, J.

:

: GROUP ART UNIT: 3726

:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the outstanding Official Action dated May 25, 2005, applicant provisionally elects Invention I, Claims 1-6, drawn to a method for forging a hollow rack bar, classified in class 29, subclass 897.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct of independent inventions.

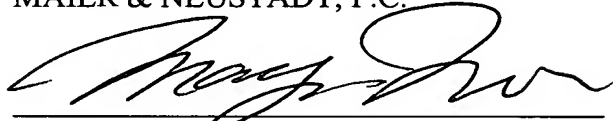
The claims of the present invention would appear to be a part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding Restriction requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Application No. 10/679,341
Reply to Office Action of May 25, 2005
Response to Restriction Requirement

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single group be withdrawn, and that full examination on the merits be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

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